CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

A method comprising:
 receiving at least one ACH transaction from a one of a payroll

vendor and a client;

verifying the at least one ACH transaction; executing the at least one ACH transaction; and limiting financial risk.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein limiting financial risk includes requiring a direct debit procedure.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one ACH transaction is received in a single batch from the client.
 - 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising: forecasting available funds for an account.
 - 5. The method of claim 4, further comprising: establishing predetermined types of investment objectives.
 - 6. The method of claim 4 further comprising: investing available funds based on forecasted availability.
 - 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising: accumulating tax payment data for off site back up.
- 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the verification of the at least one ACH transaction includes comparing year to date transaction data.
 - 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising: assuming by a service provider of liability for non sufficient fund returned items on behalf of the payroll vendor.

- 10. The method of claim 1, further comprising: notifying the client regarding one of negative and positive tax balances.
- 11. The method of claim 1, further comprising: testing files for one of an additional client and missing client.
- 12. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 verifying one of an additional employee and an additional bank account.
 - 13. The method of claim 1 further comprising: placing available funds in a trust management system.
- 14. The method of claim 1 further comprising: using a double entry accounting system in processing transactions.
 - 15. The method of claim 1, further comprising: contracting directly with the client by a service provider.
 - 16. The method of claim 1, further comprising: allowing the client to use a federal reserve bank account number of a service provider.
 - 17. The method of claim 1, further comprising: testing files for duplicate client batches for a payroll check date.
 - 18. The method of claim 1, further comprising: separating a set of charges between the payroll vendor and the client.
 - 19. The method of claim 1, wherein all ACH transactions are received in a single file per client from the vendor and a single debit is generated.

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20. A method comprising:

receiving a file containing ACH related data;

checking the ACH related data for erroneous data;

determining a risk management scheme for the ACH related

data; and

processing the ACH related data according to the risk management scheme.

- 21. The method of claim 20, further comprising: verifying the ACH related data against prior transaction history data.
- 22. The method of claim 20, further comprising: checking the ACH related data for one of an additional client and a missing client.